

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 FEA-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-07
NSAE-00 PA-01 USIA-06 PRS-01 SP-02 AID-05 CEA-01
COME-00 EB-08 FPC-01 H-01 INT-05 L-03 NSC-05
OMB-01 PM-04 OES-06 SS-15 STR-04 TRSE-00 ACDA-07
/097 W

-----260651Z 105727 /15

R 251614Z MAR 77

FM USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3364

ERDA WASHINGTON

ERDA GERMANTOWN

INFO ALL EC CAPITALS 3331

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: TECH, EEC, ENRG, MNUC

SUBJECT: US/EC ENERGY CONSULTATIONS, BRUNNER'S VISIT

REF: STATE 062956

1. AT PRESS CONFERENCE ON HIS RETURN FROM U.S., COMMISSIONER
BRUNNER SUMMARIZED THE RESULTS OF HIS TRIP. HE IDENTIFIED
NUCLEAR SECURITY, SUPPLY OF NUCLEAR FUELS, AND OIL IMPORT
DEPENDENCY AS THE MAJOR TOPICS.

2. ACCORDING TO LOCAL PRESS ACCOUNTS, HE SAID THAT HE SAW A LARGE
CONVERGENCE OF VIEWS BETWEEN EC AND U.S. ON NUCLEAR ENERGY
AND ITS FUTURE, BUT NOTED THAT THE AMERICANS COULD NOT ADOPT
FIRM POSITIONS ON SEVERAL MATTERS BECAUSE OF THE ONGOING DEVELOP-
MENT OF A NEW U.S. NUCLEAR POLICY. HE SAID THAT THE U.S. FORESAW
NO DIFFICULTIES IN SUPPLY OF NATURAL AND SLIGHTLY ENRICHED
URANIUM, BUT THAT THERE ARE PROBLEMS IN HIGHLY ENRICHED
URANIUM AND REPROCESSING. HE REFERRED TO THE 600 KGS

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OF HEU THAT HAS BEEN DELAYED, STATING THAT HE GAINED THE
IMPRESSION THAT THE U.S. WOULD SOON RELEASE THE DELIVERIES
ALTHOUGH HE RECOGNIZED THAT THERE MIGHT BE ADDITIONAL
CONTROLS AND RESTRICTIONS IMPOSED ON THE USE OF THE
MATERIAL.

3. ON FUEL REPROCESSING, BRUNNER IS REPORTED TO HAVE MENTIONED

THE RECENT FORD FOUNDATION REPORT. HE NOTED THAT SUSPENSION OF REPROCESSING IN EUROPE COULD LEAD TO DIFFICULTIES BECAUSE OF THE RESULTING ACCUMULATION OF IRRADIATED FUEL ELEMENTS. HE ALSO REITERATED THE IMPORTANCE TO EC OF REPROCESSING AS THE SOURCE OF PLUTONIUM FUEL FOR THE FAST BREEDER REACTOR INDUSTRY. HE SAID THAT HE STRESSED TO U.S. THE IMPORTANCE OF MAINTAINING A CLEAR DISTINCTION BETWEEN NONPROLIFERATION MATTERS AND THE PEACEFUL USE OF NUCLEAR ENERGY. HE IS CONCERNED THAT FAILURE TO MAKE THAT DISTINCTION MIGHT CONFUSE THE PUBLIC AND WRONGFULLY INCREASE PUBLIC CONCERN AND OPPOSITION TO LIGHT WATER REACTORS.

4. BRUNNER REPORTED HIS INVITATION TO SCHLESINGER TO VISIT EC AFTER THE APRIL 20 ENERGY POLICY STATEMENT, AND ACCORDING TO THE PRESS, GAVE THE IMPRESSION THAT MR. SCHLESINGER HAD ACCEPTED. HE ALSO SAID THAT ENERGY WOULD IN THE FUTURE BE A REGULAR AGENDA ITEM FOR US/EC SEMIANNUAL CONSULTATIONS.

5. ON COAL, HE IS REPORTED TO HAVE GOTTEN "THE IMPRESSION THAT THE U.S WILL CONTINUE TO SUPPLY THE EC WITH THE COAL IT NEEDS."

6. COMMENT: IN PRIVATE MEETING WITH AMBASSADOR, PRIOR TO PRESS CONFERENCE, BRUNNER PROVIDED AN OVERVIEW OF HIS VISIT. HIS COMMENTS WERE GENERALLY CONSISTENT WITH RESULTS REPORTED. IN REFTEL. ONE ITEM NOT IN REFTEL: BRUNNER SAID THAT THE EC WAS INTERESTED IN PARTICIPATING IN ANY INTERNATIONAL FUEL CYCLE EVALUATION EFFORT. LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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Message Attributes

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Disposition Approved on Date:
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